Docket No. 4791-4011

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: NUBER, Dirk; STOCKHAUSEN, Werner and STRÖDER, Michael

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: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HEAT TREATMENT IN A

FLUIDIZED BED

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to fee calculations and examination on the merits, entry of the following Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. More specifically, all of the claims, Claims 1-22 have been amended.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.